

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BELIZE 00672 080320Z
ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6510

S E C R E T BELIZE 672

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLS PASS GUATEMALA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS: GT, US, BH
SUBJECT: TALK OF TERRORISTS

THIS AFTERNOON I MET AN ACQUAINTANCE WHO IS NON AMERICAN,
APPEARS BE RELIABLE AND JUDICIOUS. I DO NOT KNOW HIM WELL
BUT BELIEVE HIS BACKGROUND, EDUCATION AND PERSONAL STANDARDS
ARE GOOD. HE HAS BEEN DEALING WITH ME ABOUT U.S. DESERTER
WHO MAY WISH RETURN TO THE STATES. THIS DESERTER IS IN
GUATEMALA AND ACCORDING MY SOURCE HAS BEEN ASSOCIATING WITH
ANTI-GOVERNMENT TERRORISTS LOCATED ABOUT ONE AND ONE HALF
HOURS HORSEBACK RIDE FROM MELCHOR ON BELIZE BORDER.

MY ACQUAINTANCE VISITED TERRORIST CAMP LAST NIGHT TO TALK WITH
US CITIZEN AND LISTENED TO GUATEMALAN TERRORISTS TALK ABOUT
US EMBASSY. (HE SPEAKS SPANISH QUITE WELL). THEY WERE
QUOTED AS SAYING "WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT EMBASSY" AND THEY
SAID HE WAS "OK BECAUSE HE'S NOT AN AMERICAN." THEY ALSO
WARNED HIM TO STAY AWAY FROM EMBASSY GUATEMALA CITY.

I HAVE NO IDEA OF FACTS OF THIS CASE EXCEPT INSOFAR AS THE
DESERTER IS CONCERNED. MY SOURCE APPEARS GENUINELY
MOVED TO ASSIST THE MAN AND I BELIEVE HE IS TELLING ME THE TRUTH.

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ON OTHER HAND, I CANNOT PASS JUDGEMENT ON TERRORIST STORY EXCEPT
TO SAY THAT IT RINGS TRUE AND THAT SOURCE SOUGHT ME OUT AND
ASKED THAT I INFORM YOU.

I WOULD ASK THAT ANY USE OF THIS INFORMTION AS FAR AS GUATEMALAN
SECURITY IS CONCERNED BE DONE SO MOST CAREFULLY. I HOPE THAT
IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO, I MAY BE ABLE TO WORK OUT SOMETHING

WITH THOSE WHO ARE HELPING THE DESERTER. WOULD APPRECIATE
ANY COMMENTS DEPARTMENT MIGHT HAVE AS TO AMNESTY STATUS,
OTHER INFORMATION I MIGHT PASS ON.

MY FRIEND DID NOT MENTION ANYTHING ABOUT TIMING OR PLANS
AND WHEN I ASKED HIM, HE SAID HE DID NOT HAVE ANY MORE
INFORMATION. HE WILL, HOWEVER, BE BACK IN AREA THIS WEEKEND
AND WILL TRY GET MORE INFO.
NALLE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED GUATEMALA.

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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